

# Meet Officer Tracy Krettlin:

## St. Mary's Preparatory Law Enforcement Liaison

This spring, we talked to Officer Krettlin, an Orchard Lake Police Officer, who was assigned to the Orchard Lake Schools campus, specifically St. Mary's Preparatory, as the law enforcement liaison as of April 16. He was happy to share his answers to some frequently asked questions.



GN: *How long have you been a police officer?*

TK: I retired from the Southfield Police Department after 25 years of service in 2016. I am in my second year with Orchard Lake so that makes 27 years.

GN: *How did you become the St. Mary's Preparatory law enforcement liaison?*

TK: I was interviewed by my chief on: 1) police experience; 2) ability to communicate with staff and students; 3) ability to represent both the police department and the Orchard Lake Schools in a professional manner.

GN: *How would you describe your role here on campus, and how did you present this to the students when you first started?*

TK: My number one role here on campus is to protect the kids and staff. The second is to be a positive, encouraging mentor to the kids. I was able to present

this to the kids my first week after Mass. I also told them they could come to me with any safety concern including social media.

GN: *What type of feedback have you had from students regarding your role on campus?*

TK: The feedback from the students has been very positive. The kids here at St. Mary's Preparatory are very respectful and polite!

GN: *How should one go about reporting something out of the ordinary to you and/or other campus authorities? Do you have a process that summarizes standard procedures?*

TK: If there is any doubt, you should report it. It may be a suspicious incident report. Better to have information than not. The liaison officer's job is to advise students on what the proper thing to do is.

In addition to his responses to our questions, Officer Krettlin also shared a valuable resource called **Teen Yellow Pages** ([www.teenyellowpages.net](http://www.teenyellowpages.net)), a community service directory that contains critical topics and resources to help one make choices, gather information, and make more informed decisions. The State of Michigan also offers a valuable resource called **OK2SAY**. If, for example, a student in the state has concerns approaching a staff member at school, he or she is encouraged to consider using the OK2SAY app/website. Since inception in 2014, OK2SAY has received over 10,000 tips, preventing multiple tragedies, including planned school attacks and student suicide. OK2SAY is confidential and available 24/7. To report a concern, please call 1-855-565-2729, text 652729, email [ok2say@mi.gov](mailto:ok2say@mi.gov), or visit their website [www.mi.gov/ok2say](http://www.mi.gov/ok2say).

